

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEAE-00 OMB-01 SWF-02

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 OIC-04 IO-14 XMB-07

OPIC-12 DRC-01 /266 W

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R 041620Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6230

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: TNC SUBGROUP ON NTBS (3B)-SUBSIDIES AND COUNTER-
VAILING-MAY 29-31

BEGIN SUMMARY: TNC GROUP 3(B) MET MAY 29-31 TO
CONTINUE DISCUSSION STARTED IN COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (CTIP) ON EXPORT SUBSIDIES AND
COUNTERVAILING DUTIES (CVD). NO CONSENSUS REACHED ON
DIRECTION TO TAKE IN MOVING TOWARD OVERALL SOLUTION TO SUBSIDY
CVD PROBLEMS. CANADA, EC AND JAPAN PRESSED U.S. ON LACK
OF CVD INJURY REQUIREMENT AND SHOWED NO WILLINGNESS TO MOVE
TOWARD SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME. ALTHOUGH THEIR PRIMARY
FOCUS WAS CVD, THEY DID INDICATE SOME WILLINGNESS TO WORK ON
LIST OF PROHIBITED EXPORT SUBSIDIES AFTER U.S. GETS TRADE BILL.
END SUMMARY.

1. EXPORT SUBSIDIES. U.S. (KELLY LED OFF BY SUGGESTING GROUP
MAKE A FRESH START AND INVITING VIEWS ON DIRECTION GROUP TAKE
IN SEARCH OF SOLUTION TO SUBSIDY/CVD PROBLEM. HE STATED U.S.
UNDERSTANDING IS THAT GROUP MOVING TOWARD OVERALL SOLUTION TO
THESE RELATED PROBLEMS BY DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE RULES COVERING
BOTH PRIMARY AND NON-PRIMARY PRODUCTS. HE SUGGESTED COUNTRIES
MIGHT BEGIN BY RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ON SUBSIDIES POSED BY
U.S. (MTN/3B/W/2).

2. EC(MEYNELL) SAID TASK OF GROUP IS TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO
TRADE AND CLEARLY IMPLIED THAT LACK OF INJURY TEST IN U.S.
COUNTERVAILING DUTY LAW IS PRIMARY PROBLEM IN THIS AREA.
EC ARGUED SOLUTION SHOULD BE BASED ON EXISTING GATT
PROVISION. THEREFORE, ACCEPTANCE OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS
UNDER THESE PROVISIONS MEANS PROTOCOL OF PROVISIONAL
APPLICATION MUST BE DROPPED. U.S. SAID WE WILLING TO WORK
TOWARD RULES THAT WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE
EXCEPTIONS UNDER PROTOCOL. IN FACT THIS IS ONE OF PURPOSES
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OF GROUP. EC MADE PRO FORMA RESPONSE TO U.S. COMMENT ON
INCLUSION OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS IN WORKING ASSUMPTIONS POINTING
OUT TERMS OF REFERENCE LIMITED TO CHAPTERS 25-99.

3. IN LONG INTERVENTION ALONG LINES OF EC STATEMENT, SUGGESTING
COORDINATION WITH EC, CANADA (GREY) STATED EXISTING GATT PRO-
VISIONS GENERALLY ADEQUATE AND OPEN TO LIMITED NEGOTIATION FOR
IMPROVEMENTS. (GREY STATEMENT REPRODUCED AS MTN/3B/W/5.)

IN REFERENCE TO U.S., HE SAID CVD PROBLEM STEMS FROM COUNTRIES UNWILLING TO ABIDE BY RULES, AND THAT PROTOCOL OF PROVISIONAL APPLICATION SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED A RIGHT UNDER GENERAL AGREEMENT. THUS COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT REQUIRE PAYMENT FOR ITS REMOVAL. U.S. QUERIED IF THIS MEANT CANADA WOULD NOT REEQUEST PAYMENT FOR DROPPING EMBARGO ON IMPORTS OF USED CARD AND PLANES. CANADA MADE WEAK REPLY BY DRAWING DISTINCTION BETWEEN REMOVING LEGAL COVER, FOR WHICH NO PAYMENT REQUIRED, AND REMOVING PRACTICES PROTECTED BY PROTOCOL.

4. GREY ALSO NOTED THAT SUBSIDIES CAN BE A BARRIER TO TRADE AND STATED THAT IN A NEGOTIATING CONTEXT, CANADA IS WILLING TO ACCEPT CONCEPT OF PROHIBITED EXPORT SUBSIDIES. HOWEVER HE SAW NO UTILITY TO LIST DRAFTED IN CTIP. WE SHOULD START WITH PROHIBITED LIST IN ARTICLE XVI:4 AND NEGOTIATE CAREFULLY THE POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF OTHERS. CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE ROUTE TO FOLLOW WHEN ANOTHER PARTY IS IN BREACH OF SUBSIDY RULES, NOT AUTOMATIC APPLICATION OF COUNTERVAILING DUTY, WHICH IS CONTRARY TO GENERAL AGREEMENT AND SHOULD ONLY BE USED AS LAST RESORT AFTER OTHER ERMEDIES FAIL. FOR EXAMPLE, SOLUTION TO PROBLEM MIGHT BE A REDUCTION OF THE SUBSIDY, OR IMPOSITION OF AN EXPORT TAX.

5. IN MORE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF PROTOCOL OF PROVISIONAL APPLICATION, EC SAID THAT CONTINUED RESORT TO PROTOCOL RESULTED IN IMBALANCE OF COUNTRIES' OBLIGATIONS UNDER GATT. U.S. RESPONDED THAT PROTOCOL WAS PART OF BALANCE STRUCK IN 1948. REMOVAL OF PROTOCOL WITHOUT COMPENSATION, RATHER THAN REDRESSING IMBALANCE, WOULD IN FACT CREAT ONE.

6. SWEDEN, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF NORDICS, DECRIED SUBSIDY RACE BROUGHT ON WHEN COUNTRIES PROVIDE ARTICICIAL AIDS TO IMPROVE COMPETITIVENESS OF THEIR EXPORTS. CERTAIN EXPORT SUBSIDY PRACTICES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD BE PROHIBITED. SINCE LIST OF SUCH PRACTICES CANNOT BE EXHAUSTIVE, PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFICATION AND CONSULATATION ARE STILL NECESSARY.

7. JAPAN (WADA) INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO WORK ON PROHIBITED LIST BUT PLACED ONUS OF PROBLEM ON A DEVELOPED COUNTRY (READ U.S.) THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE AN INJURY TEST IN APPLYING COUNTER-VAILING DUTIES.

8. DELEGATIONS WERE NOT GENERALLY WILLING TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION OF U.S. QUESTIONS ON SUBSIDIES. HOWEVER, ON QUESTION WHETHER GATT ARTICLE XVI:4 AND GATT DECLARATION OF 1960 ARE ADEQUATE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF EXPORT SUBSIDIES, EC SAID DECLARATION IS GENERALLY ADEQUATE, BUT COULD BE EXTENDED AND IMPROVED. U.S. RESPONDED BY LISTING A SERIES OF DEFICIENCIES

IN THE 1960 DECLARATION: ONLY 17 COUNTRIES ARE SIGNATORIES; IT DOES NOT COVER PRIMARY PRODUCTS, ON WHICH MOST EXPORT SUBSIDIES ARE APPLIED; ITS PROHIBITION IS CONTINGENT ON DUAL PRICING CRITERION, ALTHOUGH EXPORT SUBSIDIES MAY BE PRESENT IN ABSENCE OF DUAL PRICING; LIST OF PROHIBITED PRACTICES IS ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY; NO PROVISION IS MADE FOR SANCTIONS; AND THERE IS NO ADEQUATE SOLUTION FOR PROBLEM OF SUBSIDIZED EXPORTS GOING TO THIRD-COUNTRY MARKETS.

9. DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF LDCS. IN PAPER DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING (MTN/3B/W/3), BRAZIL, WITH WIDESPREAD LDC SUPPORT, MADE CASE FOR DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF SUBSIDIZED EXPORTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES UNDER NEW TRADE RULES OR POSSIBLY UNDER A SUBSIDY/CVD CODE. IN LINE WITH PRE-MEETING CONSULTATIONS WITH BRAZIL AND COLUMBIA, U.S. INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN CONTEXT OF NEW AND COMPREHENSIVE RULES ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES COVERING ALL PRODUCTS. SAID SOMEWHAT EARLY TO FOCUS ON SPECIFICS CONCERNING SUCH TREATMENT. THIS DID NOT MEAN HOWEVER THAT CONSIDERATION NEED BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER RULES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED. EC EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR LDCS, BUT SAID LDCS COULD NOT BE EXONERATED WHERE THERE WAS POSSIBILITY OF INJURY. CANADA SPECULATED THAT IF MATERIAL INJURY REQUIREMENT AND CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES WERE NEGOTIATED, LDCS MIGHT NOT NEED DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

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OPIC-12 DRC-01 /266 W

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R 041620Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6231

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
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10. DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES. DISCUSSION UNDERLINED DIFFICULTIES OF DEALING WITH PROBLEM OF DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES STIMULATING EXPORTS. JAPAN NOTED THESE SUBSIDIES MAY HAVE LEGITIMATE OBJECTIVES, SO IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO JUDGE THEM SIMPLY ON BASIS THEIR TRADE DISTORTING EFFECTS. FOR PRODUCTION OF GOODS AIDED BY DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES, NO DISTINCTION USUALLY MADE WHETHER SUCH GOODS FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION OR FOR EXPORT. U.S. OBSERVED DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES CAN LEAD TO EXPORT STIMULATION AND/OR IMPORT SUBSTITUTION. DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES FALL IN SO-CALLED GREY AREA TO WHICH NO PROHIBITION SHOULD APPLY UNLESS CERTAIN CRITERIA ARE MET. U.S. REFERRED IN THIS CONTEXT TO CRITERIA IT PROPOSED FOR EXAMINATION BY CTIP GROUP. CANADA SUGGESTED GROUP WORK TO ELABORATE NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURES FOR THESE DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES, A VIEW WHICH EC, JAPAN AND SWEDEN SUPPORTED. CANADA EMPHASIZED THAT SUBSIDIES WHICH INHIBIT IMPORTS ARE A PARTICULAR PROBLEM. SOME LDCs SUPPORTED VIEW THAT DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE PERMITTED.

11. COUNTERVAILING DUTIES. CANADIAN REP MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT

ON COUNTERVAILING DUTIES SIMILAR TO DRAFT MEMORANDUM GIVEN TO U.S. BEFORE MEETING. STATEMENT, WHICH TO BE DISTRIBUTED AS MTN DOCUMENT, SUGGESTS A CVD NEGOTIATING APPROACH ENCOMPASSING FOLLOWING ELEMENTS: CAREFULLY DEFINED MATERIAL INJURY REQUIREMENT APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTIES; DEFINITION OF TYPES OF SUBSIDIES SUBJECT TO

CVD; ELABORATION OF CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES. EC REP REITERATED EARLIER STATEMENTS, ADDING THAT DEVELOPMENT OF A CODE FOR INCLUSION WITHIN ARTICLE VI WOULD BE TIMELY AND THAT, DESPITE DEFICIENCIES, ANTI-DUMPING CODE MIGHT BE USED AS MODEL. JAPAN PROPOSED GROUP PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF CVD CODE BEFORE CONCLUDING WORK ON SUBSIDIES.

12. U.S. REP UNDERSCORED POINT THAT EMPHASIS ON COUNTERVAILING DUTIES IS MISDIRECTED; AND SAID THAT SUCH EMPHASIS IS LIKE PUTTING CART BEFORE HORSE. SUBSIDIES ARE SERIOUS TRADE DISTORTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT MUST PRECEDE COUNTERVAIL ACTION. THEREFORE WHY SHOULD ONUS BE ON COUNTERVAILER INSTEAD ON ON SUBSIDIZER? RANGE OF SUBSIDIES TO BE COVERED BY NEW RULES SHOULD BE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION. FURTHERMORE, THESE RULES SHOULD PROVIDE FOR SANCTIONS. REGARDING INJURY, U.S. AGREED WITH CANADA THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ANTI-DUMPING AND COUNTERVAIL ACTIONS. THEREFORE, WHOLE CONCEPT OF INJURY SHOULD BE EXAMINED.

13. AFTER CONTENTIOUS FIRST-DAY EXCHANGE, U.S. INITIATED PRIVATE MEETING OF EC, CANADIAN, AND JAPANESE PRINCIPALS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY TURNING DISCUSSION ON MORE CONSTRUCTIVE PATH. ON PERSONAL BASIS, MEYNELL SAID EC WOULD SIT DOWN AND LOOK AT LIST OF PROHIBITED EXPORT PRACTICES IF U.S. HAS A TRADE BILL. BOTH EC AND CANADA FELT GATT EXERCISE MOVING TOO RAPIDLY AT TIME WHEN U.S. HAS NO TRADE BILL. GREY SAID SUBSIDY AND COUNTERVAILING ISSUES ARE LONG-TERM ONES FOR NEGOTIATION TOWARD END OF MTN, POSSIBLY AS PART OF SECTORAL NEGOTIATIONS. AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES PROBLEM ALSO WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE SETTLED AS PART OF FINAL PACKAGE ON AGRICULTURE. KELLY STATED HIS CONCERN OVER LONG DELAY IN SEEKING SOLUTION, MAKING POINT U.S. ADMINISTRATION UNDER STRONG PRESSURE TO COUNTERVAIL IN INCREASING NUMBER OF CASES. U.S. CLEARLY INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATING ON THESE TWO ISSUES. POSITIVE MOVEMENT IN MTN EXERCISE SHOULD FAVORABLY INFLUENCE SENATE CONSIDERATION THIS ISSUE IN TRADE BILL, WHICH IN TURN COULD FACILITATE NEGOTIATIONS.

14. COMMENT: BOTH GREY AND MEYNELL RETAINED WITHOUT BLEMISH THEIR PERSONAL REPUTATIONS FOR LARGE EGOS AND ACID TONGUES. DEL BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT THESE TACTICS USED TO SERVE THEIR PURPOSE OF TRYING DOCUS WORK PRIMARILY ON COUNTERVAIL ISSUE. THIS HAS BEEN PREVIOUS EC POSITION AND, THEREFORE, NO NEW AND DIFFICULT INTRA-COMMUNITY DECISIONS ARE REQUIRED. ALTHOUGH

CANADA MORE FORTHCOMING THAN EC ON SUBSTANCE, IT APPEARS THAT
CANADA WANTS DOMESTIC SUBSIDIES THAT STIMULATE EXPORTS TO BE
EFFECTIVELY EXCLUDED FROM ANY SETTLEMENT SUBSIDY/COUNTERVAIL ISSUE.
THIS WOULD LEAVE CANADA FLEXIBILITY IT NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO FOSTER
SECONDARY INDUSTRIES AND TO INITIATE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
ALONG LINES OF MICHELIN VENTURE.ABRAMS

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